



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1307.4 - South Australian Economic Indicators, Jul 2004

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## Summary

### Main Features

#### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication provides an up-to-date overview of the South Australian economy and contrasts the State's performance with that of the Australian economy. It provides details of movements in a range of economic and social indicators.

#### OVERVIEW

The data in this Overview are presented in trend terms, unless otherwise stated.

Included in this overview are Statistical Summary tables showing comparisons between South Australia and Australia for a variety of economic and social indicators. Also included is a State Summary, showing the performance of all States and Territories for selected indicators.

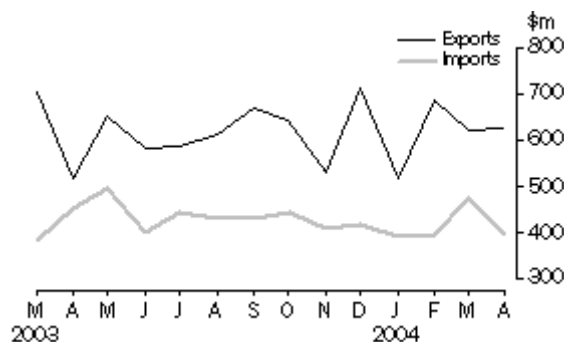
Further detail on all the indicators shown below can be obtained by accessing the latest Data Cube attached to this publication. This Data Cube is available within the **Related Links** section at the bottom of this page.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE

The value of South Australian merchandise exports (in original terms) for the month of April 2004 was \$627.7m. This was an increase of 1.0% from the previous month and 20.8% more than the value of exports in April 2003 (\$519.7m).

The value of South Australian merchandise imports (in original terms) for April 2004 was \$397.1m. This was a decrease of 16.2% from the \$473.9m recorded in March 2004, and 12.0% less than the April 2003 figure of \$451.0m.

#### Merchandise Exports and Imports

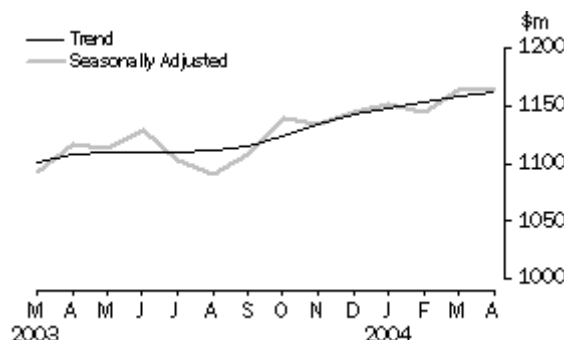


- See International Merchandise Imports, Australia (Timeseries, cat. no. 5439.0), International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia (cat. no. 5368.0)

## CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT

Retail Turnover continued its steady increase, with a positive movement of 0.3% from March 2004 (\$1,159.2m) to \$1162.7m in April 2004. In the twelve month period from April 2003, total retail turnover increased by 5.0% from \$1,107.7m.

### Retail Turnover



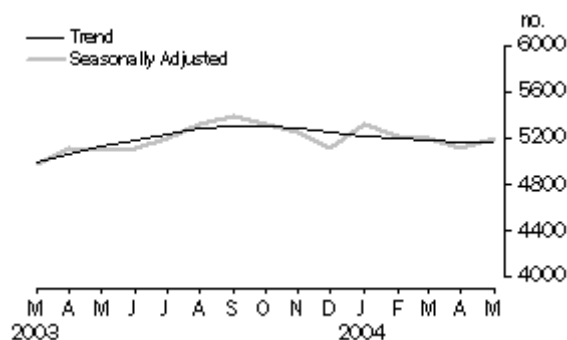
- See Retail Trade, Australia (cat. no. 8501)

In current price terms, the National Accounts figures for the March qtr 2004 showed that state final demand in South Australia increased by 1.1% from the December qtr 2003 (\$14.5b) to \$14.7b. This was also a 6.0% increase on the March qtr 2003 figure of \$13.9b.

Household consumption expenditure grew by 1.9% from the December qtr 2003 to be \$9.0b for the March qtr 2004. Private gross fixed capital formation was \$2.7b for the March qtr 2004, a figure 2.2% lower than the previous quarter but 3.5% higher than the March qtr 2003 ((\$2.6b).

May 2004 saw a total of 5,174 new motor vehicle sales - a decrease of 0.1% on the previous month's figure of 5,180 vehicles. However, the May figure is 0.9% higher than the new vehicles sales recorded in May 2003 (5,128).

### New Motor Vehicle Sales

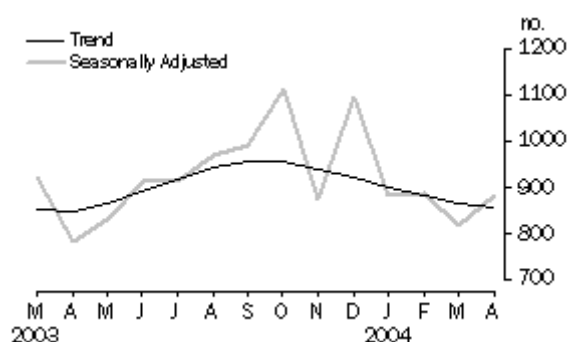


- See Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (cat. no. 9314.0.55.001)

## HOUSING

In April 2004 the estimated total number of dwelling units approved in South Australia was 857, slightly lower than March 2004 (868) but slightly higher than the estimated total approved in April 2003 (848).

### Dwelling Units Approved

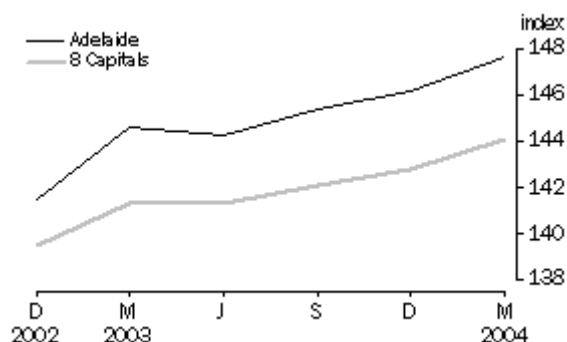


- See Building Approvals, Australia (cat. no. 8731.0)

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The all groups consumer price index in Adelaide for the March quarter 2004 was 147.7, an increase of 2.1% on the level recorded for the same period in 2003 and up 1.0% on the December quarter 2003.

### Consumer Price Index



- See Consumer Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6401.0)

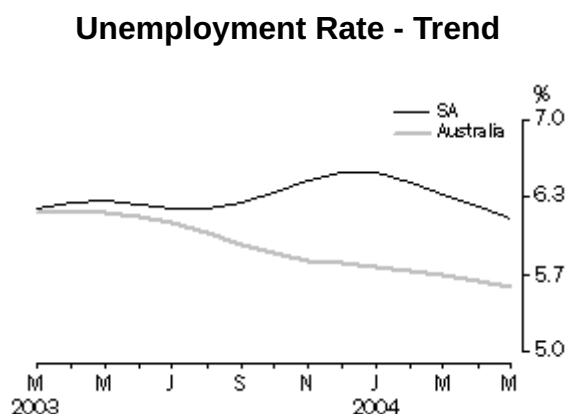
## LABOUR FORCE AND DEMOGRAPHY

The estimate of employed persons in South Australia was 718,600 in May 2004, slightly lower than the peak in July 2003 (719,600) and similar to the level of twelve months ago (718,300). The total

number of persons employed full-time in South Australia was 491,500 in May 2004, lower than the May 2003 estimate of 505,500.



The estimate of the unemployment rate for South Australia was 6.2% in May 2004, slightly lower than the May 2003 estimate of 6.3%. The estimate of the participation rate in South Australia was 61.4% in May 2004, continuing the decline from the most recent peak of 62.0% between May and July 2003.

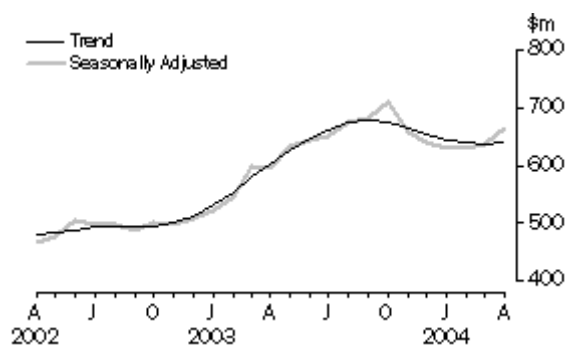


- See Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0)

## FINANCIAL MARKETS

The value of secured housing finance commitments (excluding alterations and additions, and including refinancing) was \$639.4m in April 2004. This was an increase of 0.2% from the previous month and 5.8% more than the value of commitments in April 2003 (\$604.1m).

### Secured Housing Finance Commitments (a)



(a) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

- See Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (cat. no. 5609.0)

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 1

Indicator	Period	South Australia			Australia				
		Number	% change from		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Australia	Source index
			Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
State accounts									
Domestic final demand									
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	14,139	0.5	4.0	201,461	1.3	5.6	7.0	1
Private final consumption expenditure									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	8,976	1.9	6.5	122,026	1.9	7.3	7.4	
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	8,531	1.3	4.6	118,127	1.6	6.2	7.2	1
Private gross fixed capital formation									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	2,720	-2.3	3.5	42,650	1.1	8.5	6.4	
Chain volume measures trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	2,739	-1.9	4.0	42,024	1.2	7.8	6.5	1
Compensation of employees									
Current prices trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	5,989	0.5	2.5	95,510	1.4	5.4	6.3	
International accounts									
Exports (\$m)	Apr 04	627.7	1.0	20.8	9,254.5	0.5	6.4	6.8	2
Imports (\$m)	Apr 04	397.1	-16.2	-12.0	10,823.8	-5.2	-1.1	3.7	2
Consumption and investment									
Retail turnover									
Current prices original (\$m)	Apr 04	1,141.4	0.6	6.1	15,432.7	0.2	8.9	7.4	3
Current prices trend (\$m)	Apr 04	1,162.7	0.3	5.0	15,898.9	0.2	7.7	7.3	3
Chain volume measures original (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	3,206.0	-13.8	9.5	44,176.2	-13.7	12.9	7.3	3
New motor vehicle sales									
Original (no.)	May 04	5,215	11.7	-1.1	78,279	9.8	0.0	6.7	4
Trend (no.)	May 04	5,174	-0.1	0.9	79,327	0.5	3.9	6.5	4
Private new capital expenditure									
Current prices original (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	799	-25.9	-10.9	11,085	-19.6	-4.8	7.2	5
Current prices trend (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	883	-8.4	-13.1	12,591	-1.6	-1.4	7.0	5
Private new capital expenditure (\$m)	2002-03	4,020	29.1	..	51,093	15.1	..	7.9	5
Tourist accommodation takings (\$m)	Dec qtr 03	68.3	12.9	5.2	1,499.3	9.2	14.1	4.6	6
Production									

Dwelling unit approvals									
Original (no.)	Apr 04	799	-18.7	13.7	13,609	-10.1	-0.4	5.9	7
Trend (no.)	Apr 04	857	-1.2	1.1	14,156	-0.2	-0.5	6.1	7
Dwelling units commenced (no.)	Dec qtr 03	2,776	9.2	1.3	46,696	6.6	4.7	5.9	8
Value of non-residential building approvals- trend (\$m)	Apr 04	73.4	-5.3	-13.2	1,170.2	-3.2	-13.8	6.3	7777
Value of total building activity									
Commenced (\$m)	Dec qtr 03	985.4	40.9	32.7	14,090.1	9.4	5.0	7.0	8
Work done (\$m)	Dec qtr 03	750.3	11.7	23.4	13,844.8	8.0	13.4	5.4	8
Work yet to be done (\$m)	Dec qtr 03	1,406.3	27.9	41.2	22,562.3	4.7	14.6	6.2	8
Value of engineering construction work done (\$m)	Dec qtr 03	436.4	-1.1	-11.8	6,960.5	11.7	10.5	6.3	9
Manufacturing production									
Red meat trend (tonnes)	Mar qtr 04	55,744	0.7	-7.6	759,470	2.4	-0.3	7.3	11
Mineral exploration expenditure (other than for petroleum) (\$m)	Mar qtr 04	7.1	-26.0	18.3	167.3	-16.1	9.1	4.2	12

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY Part 2

Indicator	Period	South Australia			Australia				
		Number	% change from		Number	% change from		SA as a % of Australia	Source index
			Previous period	Same period previous year		Previous period	Same period previous year		
<b>Prices (a)</b>									
CPI- All groups (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	147.7	1.0	2.1	144.1	0.9	2.0	..	13
Price index of materials used in house building (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	138.3	0.7	1.5	134.4	0.6	2.7	..	14
Price index of materials used in building other than houses (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	126.1	0.3	1.9	126.9	0.2	2.3	..	14
Price index of established houses (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	227.1	3.0	22.8	251.3	2.5	17.9	..	15
Price index of project homes (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	168.3	2.1	7.4	155.8	1.4	7.7	..	15
<b>Labour force and demography</b>									
Population (resident at end qtr) ('000)	Dec qtr 03	1,531.4	0.2	0.6	20,008.7	0.3	1.3	7.7	16
Natural increase of the population ('000)	Dec qtr 03	1,227.0	2.7	-17.3	31,374.0	11.9	2.6	3.9	16
Labour Force Original ('000)	May 04	764.2	0.2	-0.4	10,204.3	-0.0	1.2	7.5	17

Trend ('000)	May 04	765.8	-0.0	-0.1	10,238.8	0.1	1.7	7.5	17
Employed persons									
Original ('000)	May 04	716.1	0.1	-0.3	9,640.7	0.2	2.0	7.4	17
Trend ('000)	May 04	718.6	0.1	0.0	9,669.5	0.2	2.4	7.4	17
Participation rate									
Original (b) (%)	May 04	61.3	0.1	-0.8	63.5	0.0	-0.2	..	17
Trend (b) (%)	May 04	61.4	-0.1	-0.6	63.7	0.0	0.1	..	17
Unemployment rate									
Original (b) (%)	May 04	6.3	0.2	-0.1	5.5	-0.2	-0.7	..	17
Trend (b) (%)	May 04	6.2	-0.1	-0.1	5.6	0.0	-0.6	..	17
Job vacancies ('000)	Feb 04	5.5	37.6	-21.9	105.7	0.0	-5.0	5.2	18
Industrial disputes ('000 working days lost)	Mar qtr 04	4.9	11.4	133.3	76.8	-49.3	15.8	6.4	19
<b>Income</b>									
Average weekly earnings (full-time; ordinary time)									
Original (\$)	Feb qtr 04	868.10	0.0	2.0	947.80	1.0	5.3	..	20
Trend (\$)	Feb qtr 04	866.10	-0.1	2.7	948.00	1.0	4.9	..	20
Wage cost index (total hourly rate excluding bonuses)									
(c) (index no.)	Mar qtr 04	123.9	0.7	4.0	123.7	0.8	3.6	..	21
<b>Financial markets</b>									
Secured housing finance (d)									
Original (\$m)	Apr 04	623.4	-12.6	7.4	9,543.8	-13.9	2.7	6.5	22
Trend (\$m)	Apr 04	639.4	0.2	5.8	9,758.2	-0.8	2.3	6.6	22
Finance commitments									
Personal (\$m)	Apr 04	392.3	-13.1	-0.7	6,289.0	-11.6	12.4	6.2	23
Commercial (\$m)	Apr 04	827.6	-34.1	2.1	24,126.0	2.6	16.0	3.4	23
Lease (\$m)	Apr 04	12.4	-31.1	-5.3	456.0	-18.8	-3.0	2.7	23
Interest rates (b)									
Banks - new housing loans (%)	May 04	..	..	..	7.05	0.0	0.50		24
Banks - business loans									
Small, medium businesses (e) (%)	May 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50		24
Large business (%)	May 04	..	..	..	8.85	0.0	0.50		24

(a) Base year of each index 1989-90 = 100.

(b) Change is shown in terms of percentage points.

(c) Base year of index Sep 1997 = 100.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.

(e) Rate for business loans over \$50,000.

## STATE SUMMARY

Indicator	Period	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Source index
SELECTED INDICATORS										
CPI- All groups(a) (index no.)	Mar qtr	145.0	143.5	145.4	147.7	139.6	143.0	139.0	143.9	13
Participation rate trend (%)	May 04	62.8	63.5	64.8	61.4	66.2	59.2	71.5	71.9	17
Unemployment rate trend (%)	May 04	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.2	5.1	6.6	4.9	3.6	17

Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend (\$)	Feb qtr	990.00	955.00	886.70	866.10	947.80	835.40	934.80	1,070.40	20
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### SELECTED INDICATORS PER HEAD OF POPULATION(b)

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c) (\$'000)	Mar qtr	10.1	10.1	9.6	9.2	10.3	8.6	13.9	16.9	1
Retail turnover Current prices original (\$)	Apr 04	787.9	740.8	790.1	745.4	766.5	700.4	769.8	935.6	3
Current prices trend (\$)	Apr 04	805.7	771.0	821.7	759.3	782.2	701.9	798.3	970.4	3
New motor vehicle sales trend (no. per '000 population)	May 04	3.8	4.2	4.4	3.4	3.7	3.1	4.0	3.7	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (\$)	Mar qtr	520.4	596.4	562.7	576.6	1,143.2	337.5	2,476.1	399.9	5
Dwelling unit approvals Original (no. per '000 population)	Apr 04	0.520	0.771	0.856	0.522	0.806	0.606	0.463	0.753	7
Trend (no. per '000 population)	Apr 04	0.560	0.728	0.907	0.567	0.986	0.579	0.453	0.657	7
Secured housing finance (d) (\$)	Apr 04	524.1	433.1	487.1	407.1	530.5	286.3	361.9	412.3	22

### PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

State final demand Chain volume measures trend (c)	Mar qtr	0.9	1.5	2.0	0.5	1.0	1.7	0.9	0.1	1
Retail turnover Current prices original	Apr 04	0.9	-2.4	1.0	0.6	1.9	0.5	5.1	-1.0	3
Current prices trend	Apr 04	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.2	-0.0	3
New motor vehicle sales trend	May 04	0.2	0.4	1.2	-0.1	0.8	1.6	2.5	-0.1	4
Private new capital expenditure Current prices trend (e)	Mar qtr	-0.9	-1.6	-2.1	-8.4	-0.4	0.0	-2.0	-8.5	5
Dwelling unit approvals Original (%)	Apr 04	-5.0	0.1	-17.8	-18.7	-24.4	4.7	7.0	20.3	7
Trend (%)	Apr 04	2.3	-0.8	-1.0	1.2	-2.1	4.8	2.5	9.7	7
CPI- All groups (%)	Mar qtr	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	13
Participation rate trend (e)	May 04	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	17
Unemployment rate trend (e)	May 04	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	17
Average weekly earnings (full-time adults; ordinary time) trend	Feb qtr	1.0	1.0	1.3	-0.1	0.9	0.1	1.2	0.4	20
Secured housing finance (d)	Apr 04	-18.0	-7.5	-15.9	-12.6	-8.0	-12.2	-20.1	-13.4	22

(a) Base year of index 1989-90=100.

(b) The latest quarterly estimate of Australian resident population has been used to calculate ratios for subsequent periods.

(c) Reference year for chain volume measures is 2001-02.

(d) Excludes alterations and additions. Includes refinancing.



## SOURCE INDEX FOR STATISTICAL & STATE SUMMARY TABLES

- 1 Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product (Cat. no. 5206.0)—and ABS data available on request
- 2 International Trade in Goods and Services (Cat. no. 5368.0) and International Merchandise Imports (Cat. no. 5349.0). Further detail available on request and in the associated datacubes.
- 3 Retail Trade, Australia (Cat. no. 8501.0) Monthly
- 4 Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia (Cat. no. 9314.0.55.001) Monthly
- 5 Private New Capital Expenditure and Expected Expenditure, Australia (Cat. no. 5625.0) Quarterly - and Ausstats data.
- 6 Tourist Accommodation, Australia (Cat. no. 8635.0) Quarterly
- 7 Building Approvals, Australia (Cat. no. 8731.0) Monthly
- 8 Building Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8752.0) Quarterly
- 9 Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (Cat. no. 8762.0) Quarterly
- 10 Manufacturing Production, Australia (Cat. no. 8301.0) Quarterly
- 11 Livestock Products, Australia (Cat. no. 7215.0) Quarterly—and ABS data available on request.
- 12 Actual and Expected Private Mineral Exploration, Australia (Cat. no. 8412.0) Quarterly
- 13 Consumer Price Index (Cat. no. 6401.0) Quarterly
- 14 Producer Price Indexes, Australia (Cat. no. 6427.0) Quarterly
- 15 House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (Cat. no. 6416.0) Quarterly
- 16 Australian Demographic Statistics (Cat. no. 3101.0) Quarterly
- 17 Labour Force, Australia (Cat. no. 6202.0) Monthly
- 18 Job Vacancies, Australia (Cat. no. 6354.0) Quarterly
- 19 Industrial Disputes, Australia (Cat. no. 6321.0) Monthly
- 20 Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (Cat. no. 6302.0) Quarterly
- 21 Wage Cost Index, Australia (Cat. no. 6345.0) Quarterly
- 22 Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia (Cat. no. 5609.0) Monthly

- 23 Lending Finance, Australia (Cat. no. 5671.0) Monthly—and ABS data available on request.
- 24 Reserve Bank of Australia Bulletin

## About this Release

### ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Provides an up-to-date overview of what has been happening in the South Australian economy and contrasts the state's performance with that of the Australian economy. Provides details of movements in a range of economic indicators and also contains time series information.

Changing to electronic format, from the Feb 2004 release.

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